

Managing in Tight Budget Times: Realities and Strategies

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Realities of FY 2006



RESEARCH FUNDING

NIH in the Post-Doubling Era: Realities and Strategies

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This has been a challenging year for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the biomedical research community. An extraordinarily tight federal budget is eroding the growth of NIH at a time when opportunities for scientific progress and advances in human health have never been greater. As I talk to scientists and administrators, anxiety is palpable. I am most concerned about the future of this difficult time.

Enhanced online at
www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/314/5802/1088

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22 August 2003

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Immediate- to long-term approaches are discussed that will minimize the negative impacts of current budget constraints and still preserve the NIH mission.

billions between 1990 and 1997. Allowing for the lag time necessary to build facilities and train scientists, this expansion is now being felt in the form of a rapid surge in applications. It should not go without mentioning, however, that this increased investment by our research institutions is resulting in the development of entirely new fields of research, leading to an acceleration of the pace of promising research advances across the entire spectrum of the biomedical and behavioral sciences. This is just what the nation wants and needs.

Unfortunately, our ability to sustain this expanded research enterprise is now at risk. Some of the tension is due to inflation. Since 1998, the average size of RPGs grew by about 40% and NIH budgets have not kept pace with biomedical research and development inflation since 2003.

Increased demand, inflation effects, and

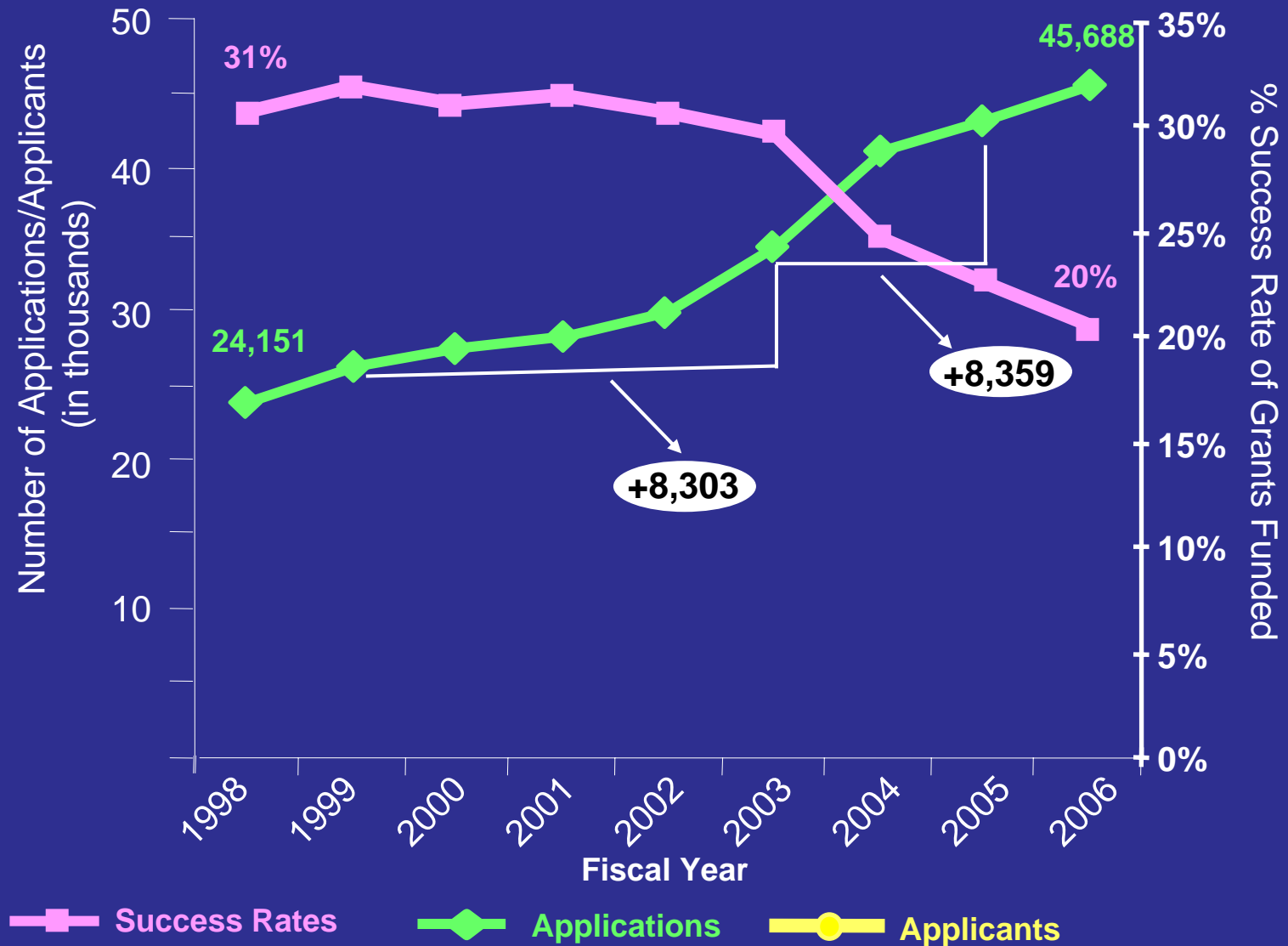
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2006 Data

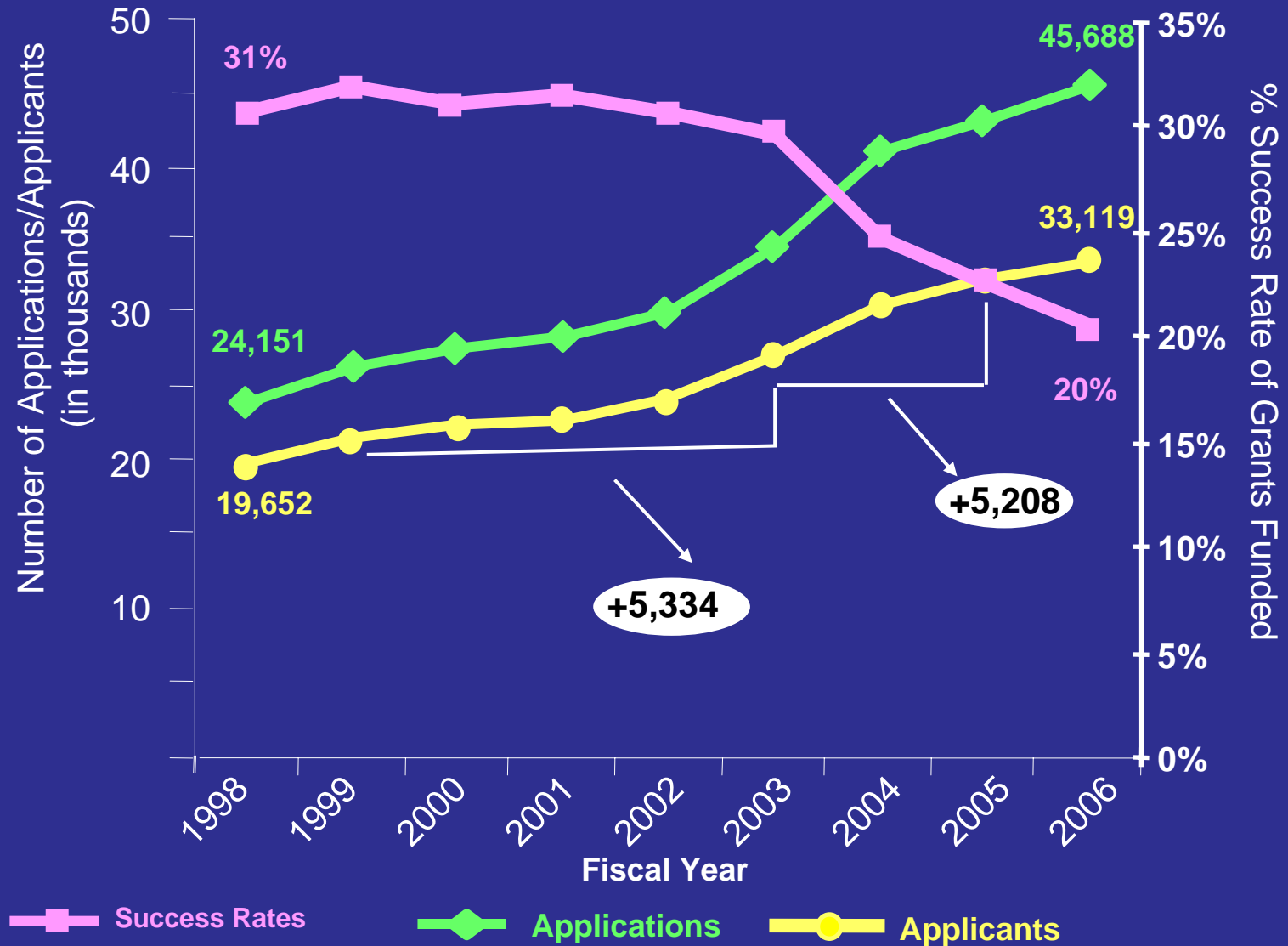
Fiscal Year/Competitive Status		All Research Grants	Research Project Grants and Applications							
2006			All Research Projects	R01 Equiv. (R01, R29, R37)	R03	R21	Other RPG*	Centers	Research Career	Other Research Activities
Comp. Apps	Success rate base	57,258	45,688	29,097	3,214	9,934	3,443	923	2,712	7,935
	Awards	12,519	9,128	6,037	623	1,533	935	307	829	2,255
	Success Rate	21.9%	20.0%	20.7%	19.4%	15.4%	27.2%	33.3%	30.6%	28.4%
	Amount Awarded	\$4,704,722,788	\$3,358,338,602	\$2,202,468,404	\$48,354,845	\$299,243,870	\$808,271,483	\$454,304,645	\$131,061,202	\$761,018,339
Total (Comp. and Non-comp.)	Number	46,834	36,846	29,104	1,411	3,127	3,204	1,488	4,258	4,242
	Amount	\$20,158,697,412	\$14,852,718,891	\$10,503,115,206	\$110,682,635	\$599,075,274	\$3,639,845,776	\$2,801,820,272	\$662,750,651	\$1,841,407,598



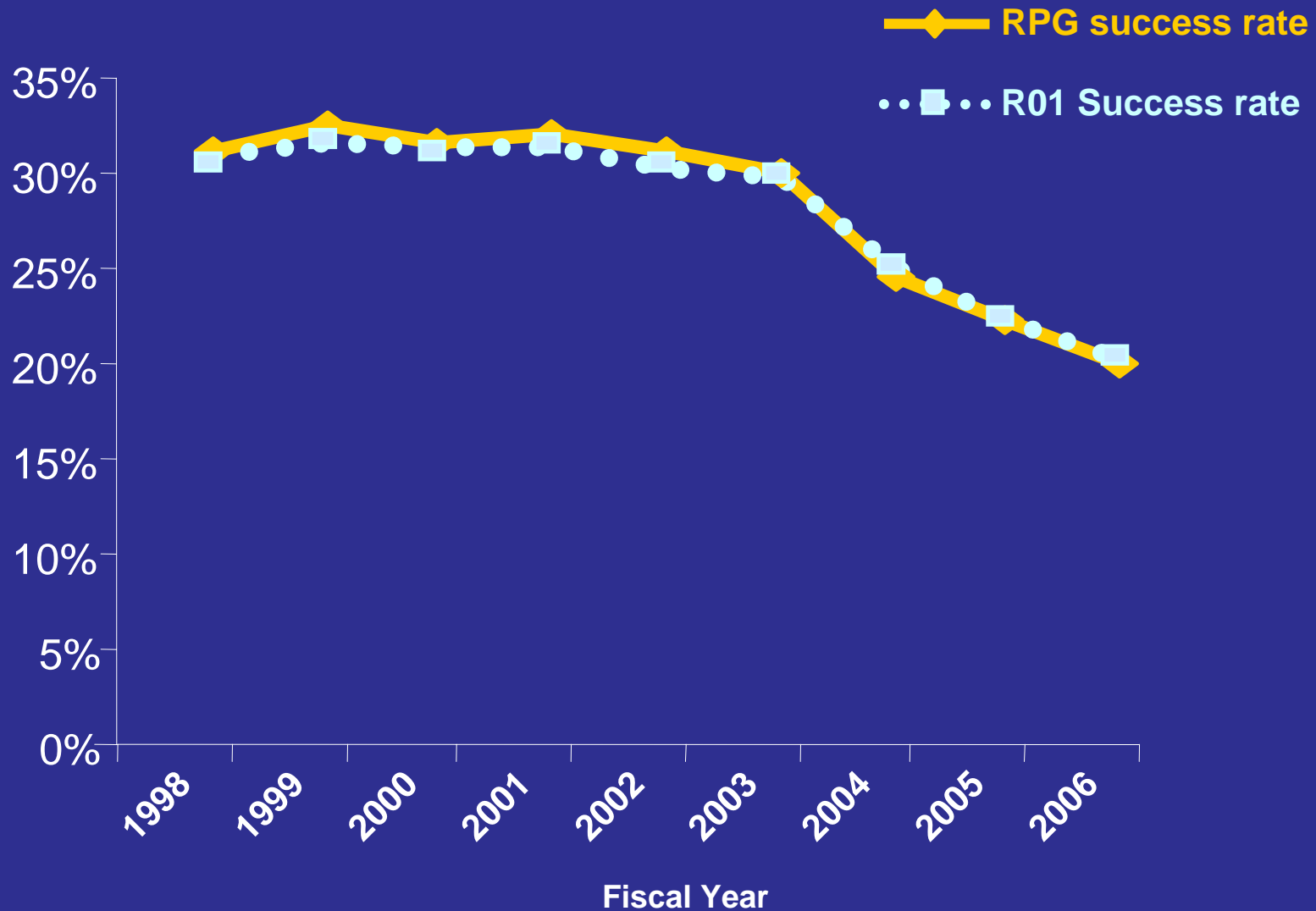
FY 2006: Demand for Grants Surges at End of Doubling Period, Success Rates Fall



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Overall, R01-equivalent Success Rate Comparable to RPG Success Rate



Strategies in FY 2006



Protect the Future: New and Junior Investigators



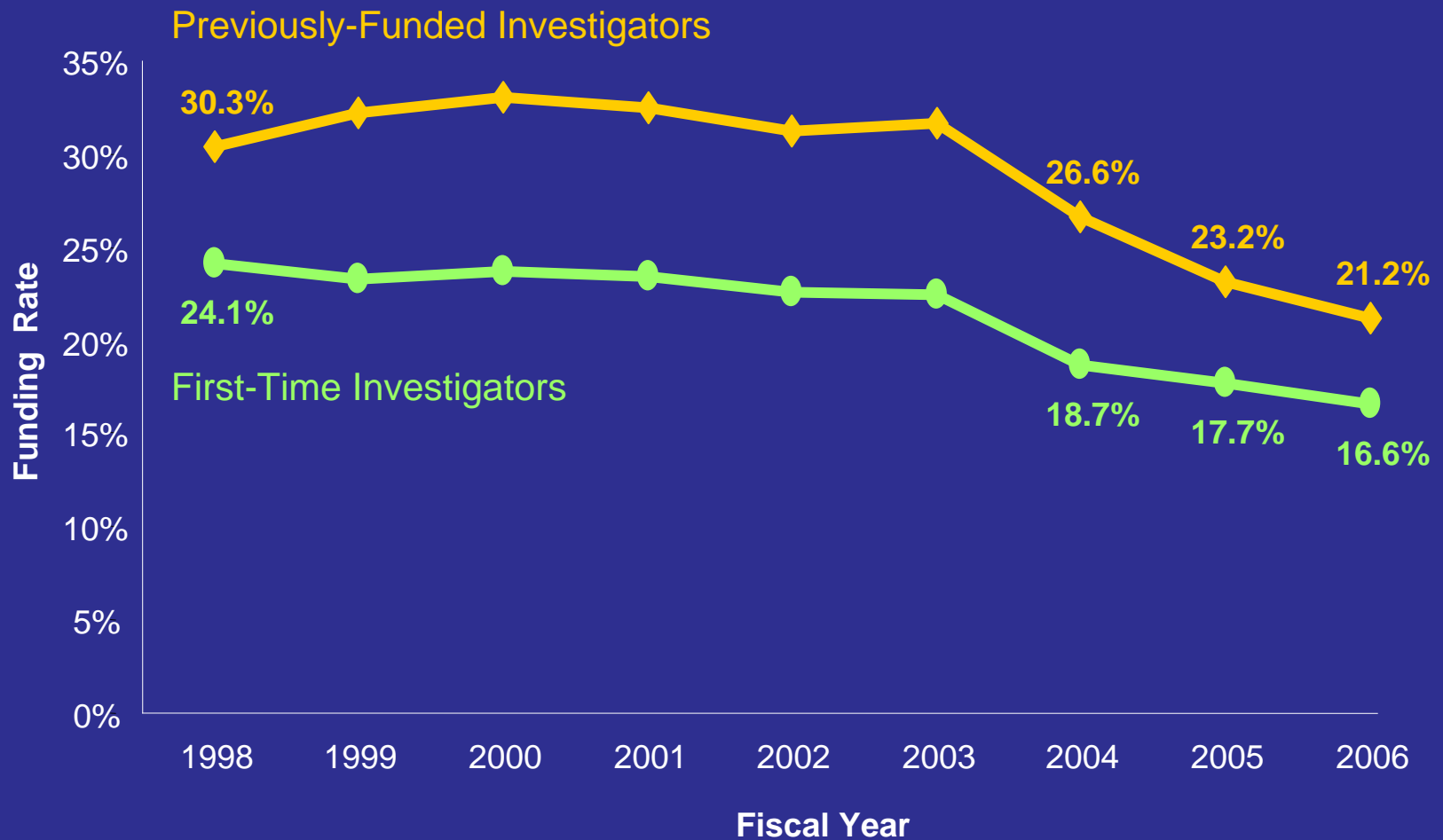
Pathway to Independence Award

- Five years of support consisting of two phases
- Phase I provides 1-2 years of mentored support for advanced post doctoral fellows- 90k per year
- Phase II provides up to 3 years of independent R01 equivalent research support- 250k per year
- Almost 1000 applications received
- *58 awards announced in first FY2007 Round*

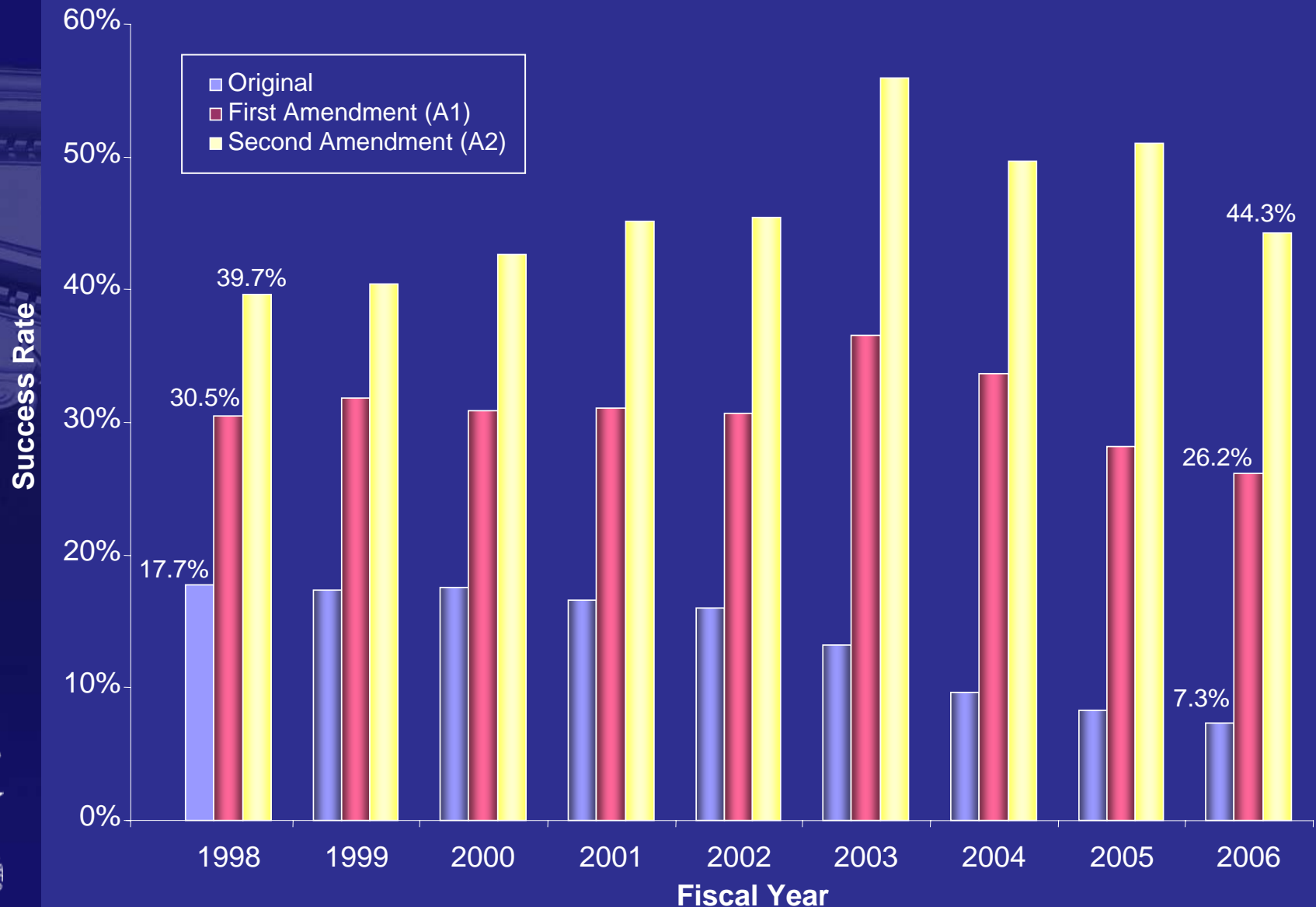
http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/new_investigators/index.htm

Funding Rates for First-Time and Previously-Funded Investigators

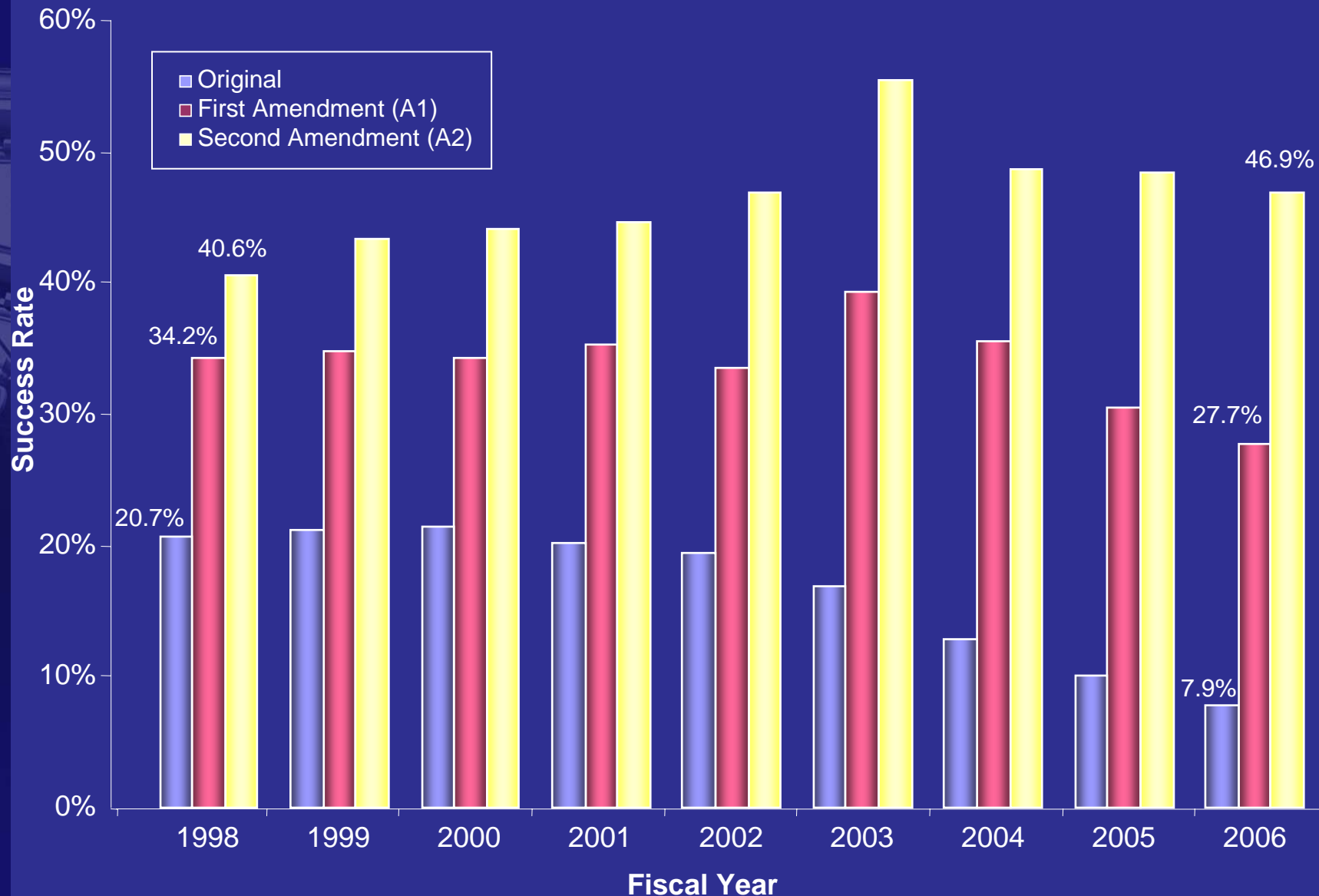
New (Type 1) R01-equivalent Applicants (People)



Success Rate for New (Type 1) Competing R01 Applications from *First-Time Investigators*



Success Rate for New (Type 1) Competing R01 Applications for *All Applicants*



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December 1, 2006



Innovate: Make Peer Review More Efficient



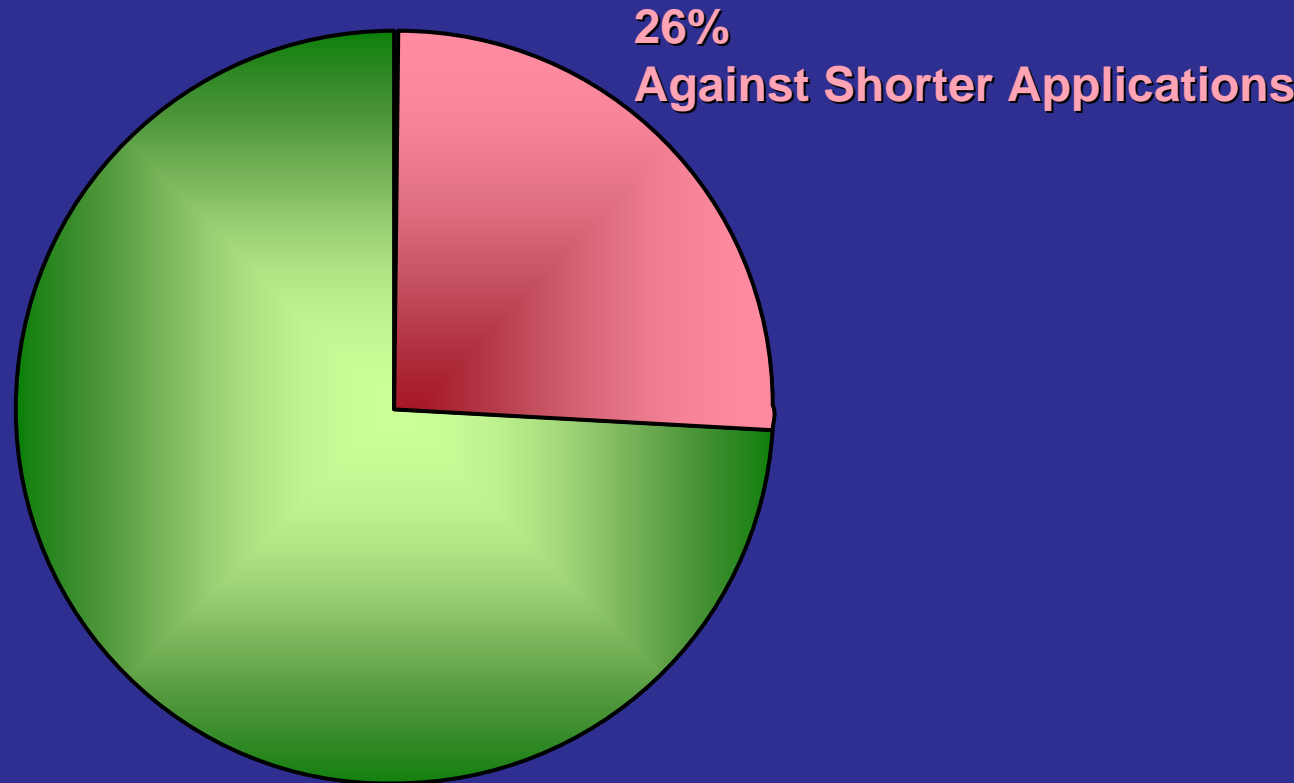
- Electronic Receipt
- Exploring ways to make peer review more efficient for both applicants and reviewers
- Pilot study to shorten the review cycle for new investigator R01 applications



Shortening R01 Applications:

NIH Guide Survey on Shorter R01 Applications

3,263 responses received

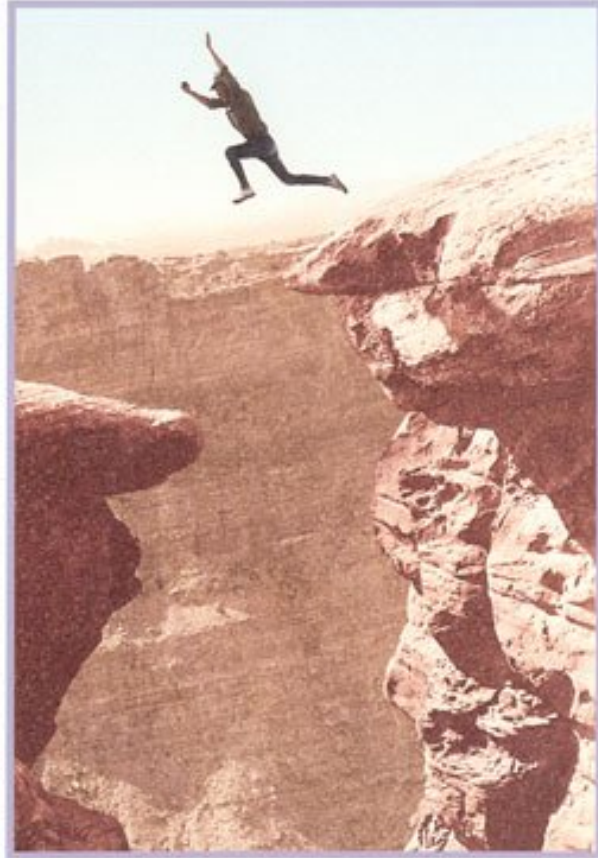


74%
For Shorter Applications

26%
Against Shorter Applications

Responses as of 11/28/2006. Survey will extend to January 2007.

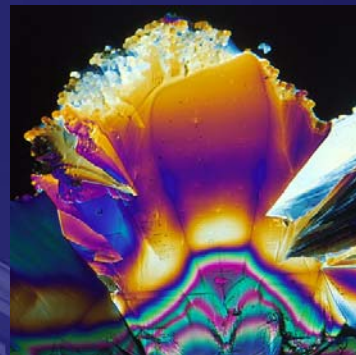




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**The greatest
risk in
science is to
stop taking
risks!**





NIH *Transforming medicine and health through discovery*

